DEMOCRATIC

GERMAN REPORT

VOL. I NO. 23 NOVEMBER 21st 1952 Price: 15 Pf., 5 c., 3 d

"NEVER AGAIN WAR WITH FRANCE"

President Pieck's Pledge

The German Democratic Republic will never allow a German attack on the French people, President Wilhelm Pieck solemnly declared on November 13th.

President Pieck's historic declaration, which denoted the final ending of national friction many generations old, stated:

"The joint resistance of the patriots of France and Germany to the re-establishment of German militarism in West Germany, which threatens the national security of France and Germany to an equal degree, has created a new situation in German-French relations which I welcome whole-heartedly.

"The German Democratic Republic will for its part never tolerate that war should ever again be waged against the French people by Germans."

Wilhelm Pieck's historic declaration came just after the ending of the Berlin session of the "International Conference for the Peaceful Solution of the German Problem", at which leading personalities from both parts of Germany and from France, Italy, and most other European countries discussed how to convert Germany from a war danger-spot into a guarantee of peace.

The Conference, a full report of which is given on page 4, brought together men and women of such differing points of view as Protestant Pastor Niemoeller and the Catholic former Chancellor Josef Wirth from West Germany; Franz Dahlem from the Political Bureau of the Socialist Unity Party in East Germany: Catholic editor Jean-Marie Domenach and trade union leader Gaston Monmousseau from France; prominent pacifist Stuart Morris and miners' leader William Pearson from Great Britain; and Liberal Deputy Giuseppe Nitti and Communist Deputy Giuliane Pajetta from Italy.

The resolution, passed by the Conference without a single vote of opposition and only three abstentions, called for an intensified struggle against the Bonn and Paris treaties, and the conclusion of a peace treaty to restore independence to the German people.

I. G. FARBEN MAKES POISON GAS AGAIN

The factories of I. G. Farben, great German chemical trust which made the Zyklon gas for Hitler's extermination camps, is back in the gas-making business today, according to reports from West Germany.

12,000 workers in the Mannheim factory of I. G. Farben, where Zyklon gas used to be made, are at work on various types of war gases, these reports state. In the Waldshut factory phosphorus for fire-bombs is being turned out at the rate of 6100 tons annually.

"SACK ADENAUER: BUILD UNITY GOVT."

Communist Goal for West Germany

All West German patriots must come together to overthrow the Adenauer Government and to establish a Government of National Unification, which would cooperate with the Government of the German Democratic Republic to hold all-German elections and obtain a peace treaty for Germany, the Communist Party of Germany stated in a "Programme for National Unification" published on November 12th.

"The Communist Party of Germany does not believe that the unification of Germany can be achieved by transplanting schematically the state of affairs ruling in the German Democratic Republic to West Germany, since the objective conditions there are different, and the interests of German re-unification and the fight for peace demand concessions from both parts of Germany", the programme stated.

The programme sketched the goals set in the national fight for the liberation of West Germany, which included all-German elections, re-unification of all German territory including the Saar Territory, the withdrawal of the occupation troops, and rejection of all military alliances aimed against other nations.

Economic goals included nationalisation of all pits, steel-works, banks, etc whose owners had supported the treacherous Adenauer regime; splitting up of all estates over 250 acres and distribution of the land to poor peasants and agricultural labourers.

Social aims included abolition of unemployment, co-determination for factory workers, and equal pay for equal work as part of full equality for women.

The programme of the Communist Party, which exists only in West Germany, was enthusiastically greeted by the Socialist Unity Party, its brother party in the German Democratic Republic.

(Full details of the programme on p. 2 & 3.)

PROGRAMME FOR NATIONAL UNIFICATION

Drafted by the Board of the Communist Party of Germany

Here is a full summary of the important programme drafted by the Board of the Communist Party of Germany on November 2nd., and published on November 12th.

"The people of West Germany are in a state of serious crisis. The criminal war waged by Hitlerite Germany and the defeat which followed brought death to millions, and great destruction. After the war West Germany, cut off from East Germany, was enslaved by the American, British and French imperialists.

"They were not able to bring the whole of Germany under their control. With the help of the Soviet Army, East Germany had freed itself from the Hitlerite regime and from imperialist slavery, and had stepped out along the path of democratic and peaceful development laid down by the Potsdam Agreement.

"The western powers are using the occupation regime to squeeze maximum profits out of West Germany. They are imposing upon West Germany treaties such as the Marshall Plan, the Schuman Plan and other agreements, which are entirely contrary to German interests, and contrary to the Potsdam Agreement reached by the Four Powers".

RIGHTS USURPED

The programme then outlined the usurpation of German rights by the western occupation powers; the alienation of heavy industry; interference with German import and export trade; imposition of 10,000 million marks annually in occupation and re-armament expenditures; the rise of unemployment and decline in the standard of living; and the requisition of German farm land.

"The American imperialists are not content with enslaving and exploiting the West German population. They wish to drag West Germany into a new war of aggression.

"That is why the organisation of a West German mercenary army is being organised, and why West Germany is being converted into a barrack square.

"The West German population knows well that the American imperialists do not treat their allies like equal partners, but as mercenaries. They throttle and rob even such allies as France and England. What fate can be expected for West Germany, which is under imperialist occupation?

"The Adenauer Government protects the interests of the American, British and French capitalists, and their privileges in West German, by agreeing to the continuation of the occupation.

"What is the explanation for this national treachery, unequalled in German history?

"The Adenauer Government is the government of the German monopolists and big land owners, the politicians of revenge and the militarists.

"The reactionary and military circles who support the Adenauer Government are just as interested as the Americans in dragging West Germany into a new war, since they regard a new war as the most profitable form of business. Through a new war adventure they hope to regain the position lost by the German imperialists, and they hope to have the chance once again to enslave other peoples.

"In order to carry out the orders of the foreign and the German imperialists the Adenauer Government is steadily abolishing the bourgeois democratic rights of the people.

ADENAUER MUST GO

"The Adenauer Government rules against the will of the people and breaks even the Bonn Basic Law which it worked out itself.

"The Adenauer Government is the enemy of the rights of the people and of all democracy.

"If the people of West Germany wish to live, then they must overthrow the Adenauer regime.

"It would be folly to expect the Adenauer Government to resign of its own volition. It would be folly to expect that West German pseudo-elections under the Adenauer regime of suppression and trickery, or that partial reforms which did not go to the root of the order in West Germany, could end the state of crisis in West Germany and lead to the re-unification of Germany.

BOSSES USE FORCE

"The oppressors will use all the means of force at their disposal to prevent a basic revision of the state of affairs in West Germany and to prevent the national unification of Germany.

"For this reason the Adenauer regime must be overthrown and a free, united, independent, democratic and peaceable Germany must be established upon the ruins of this regime.

"The fall of the Adenauer regime will clear the path for the establishment of a Government of National Unification, supported by all patriotic forces in West Germany. Such a Government of National Unification would have to take steps to hold all-German elections. Such a government would have to participate in all-German representations to the Four Great Powers aimed at the speedy conclusion of a peace treaty and the withdrawal of all occupation troops.

"Such a government would have to cancel all treaties forced upon the people of West Germany which do not grant equal rights. Such a government would have to restore the democratic rights and liberties of the people, such as the right to free expression of opinion, the right of assembly, the right to organise and the right to strike.

"Such a government would have to disolve the fascist terror organisations, and free the patriots who have been imprisoned because of their fight for the national interests of the German people.

"The Communist Party of Germany will give the fullest support to any government which stands for these national and democratic demands.

WORKERS LEAD FIGHT

"When West Germany is headed by such a government, a democratic Government of National Unification, then the western occupation troops would be forced to change their policy."

The programme then outlined the forces which would be necessary to carry out successfully the fight for unity, peace and independence, based upon united action by all sections of the working class in alliance with the peasants.

"The aims of the fight for national unification accord with the vital interests of other sections of the population too. That is why office workers and officials, craftsmen and shopkeepers, and an important section of the West German industrialists and merchants join together with the workers and peasants. This means that the majority of the people who are not interested in war and war production join in the struggle.

"Undoubtedly there will be victims in our struggle, but for every patriot who falls in the fight, or who is plucked from our midst, a thousand new fighters will arise. There will be defeats and retreats in our struggle, and the imperialists will crow about their triumph. We can already answer them today: The victory of the national liberation movement is certain, since its cause is just."

AIMS OF WEST GERMAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT

Here is a summary of the aims of the national liberation movement in West Germany, as outlined in the Communist Party Programme published on November 12th:

1. Immediate understanding between East and West Germany with the aim of holding free, all German elections to a National Assembly, and the joint demand of West and East Germany for the speedy conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany and the withdrawal of all occupation troops.

2. Creation of a commission composed of representatives from East and West Germany to investigate the conditions for holding free all-German elections, to work out an electoral law, and to secure the holding of such elections.

3. Re-unfication of Germany as a united, democratic, peaceable and independent state. The Saar Territory is an inalienable part of Germany.

4. Speedy conclusion of a peace treaty ensuring the national independence and sovereignty of Germany.

5. All occupation troops to leave German territory after the conclusion of the peace treaty.

6. No foreign state shall have the right to maintain military bases on German territory.

7. For the protection of their independence, their peaceful work, and to ensure Gemany's territorial integrity the German people shall have the right to establish national armed forces, and to produce the necessary weapons for these forces.

8. The German people decline to participate in military alliances directed against another state.

9. An all-German commission composed of representatives of West and East Germany shall be established to take part in the Four Power Conference on the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany, and in the negotiations it will be bound by the principles named above. The peace treaty is to be signed by the All-German Government, and to be ratified by the National Assembly formed as the result of free elections.

10. The National Assembly will make decisions upon the internal democratic and social structure of Germany and will lay down its foreign policy, which should be a policy of good neighbourliness directed towards maintenance of peace and the strengthening of friendship among the nations.

GUARANTEES FOR THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE

1. All laws and decrees limiting the democratic rights of the German people shall be revoked.

2. The law shall guarantee all democratic rights and liberties such as freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, the right to combine and to strike, the right of free expression of opinion and of religious observance, and the integrity of the person and of the dwelling.

3. All hate propaganda for war, or against other races and peoples shall be punishable by law. Military and fascist organisations and federations shall be prohibited.

FREE DEVELOPMENT OF GERMAN PEACE ECONOMY

1. All limitations on the development of the German peace economy shall be removed, and the expansion of the peace economy shall be helped by all means.

2. Giant industrial undertakings, mines, iron and steel works, chemical trusts, giant banks and insurance companies, the owners of which supported the national treachery of the Adenauer regime, shall be removed from the hands of these monopolists and shall pass into the hands of the people.

3. Factories, particulary small factories, which have got into difficulties as a result measures taken by the occupation powers and the Adenauer Government, will be granted state help. Private initiative will be supported.

4. Alienation of West German economy by foreign capital, particulary American capital, will be ended. Foreign trade will be organised on the basis of free exchange of goods with all countries in the world.

5. To ensure the food supplies of the population a just distribution of the soil will be carried out. Large estates of over 250 acres will be divided up amongst poor peasants, peasants' sons, re-settlers and agricultural labourers.

SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

1. Freed from the huge burden of occupation costs and rearmament, West Germany's peace economy will blossom... Large scale support will be granted for housing, for the victims of the last war, to create new homes and jobs for re-settlers and to raise all pensions.

2. The development of the economy and of the export trade will guarantee full employment and do away with unemployment.

3. Workers and office employees and their trade unions will be granted full rights of co-determination in their factories and in all branches of the economy.

4. Social insurance legislation will be unified, and the trade unions will participate in the insurance administation...

5. Unsocial mass taxes will be revoked. Tax legislation will be simplified and given social content.

6. Equal rights for women will be guaranteed by law, particulary in family law, and in state, economic and cultural life.

7. Legal protection will be extended to mothers and children. Equal pay for equal work will be granted to women and young people.

8. All chances for education will be extended to youth, and young people will be given every chance to develop a happy life, under conditions of full equality and with all democratic rights.

9. State help will be given in housing so that housing may be provided in sufficient quantities at rents which can be paid...

Putting these demands into effect will make the German people master of their own fate, will overcome poverty and need, and will develop a secure standard of prosperity.

The Communist Party of Germany will give its full support to any government which stands for these basic aims.

The Communist Party of Germany calls upon all German patriots, and above all the workers and the peasants, to work courageously and with confidence in the great National Front of Democratic Germany to achieve these aims.

Duesseldorf, November 2nd, 1952.

THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY.

For a PEACEFUL Solution

Highlights of the Conference held in Berlin, November 8th to 10th

"UNITED GERMANY HELPS FRANCE"

Former Chancellor Wirth

Only a united peaceable and democratic Germany could guarantee France security, former German Chancellor Joseph Wirth told the Conference. Doctor Wirth, formerly a leading member of the Catholic "Zentrum" Party, was Chancellor of the Weimar Republic in 1923.

"Confidence can never be given by France and Germany's other neighbours to a partitioned Germany which could become the source of a new militarism" Dr. Wirth stated.

"We must demand that the two German Parliaments, the Federal Parliament and the People's Chamber, should commence immediately negotiations on the basis of proposals which have already been made.

"We must appeal to the leadership of all churches in all countries to be aware of their responsibility in this hour, and to use their entire influence to ensure negotiations.

"We must appeal to the trade union organisations to take up contact with each other immediately and to use the entire power of workers' solidarity in the fight for peace.

"We must call upon the universities to organise international discussions of scientists, lawyers, sociologists and historians, in order to help the peaceful solution of the German problem."

"NEUTRALITY"

Mr Stuart Morris

Germany must cease to be the training ground for foreign troops and must become the bridge between the East and West, Stuart Morris, Secretary of the British "Peace Pledge Union" told the Conference.

Mr. Morris, who also represented the National Peace Council at the Conference, announced that he was speaking in his own name, and not for the British delegation as a whole. He called for the neutralisation of a united Germany, stating:

"Neutralisation would involve the evacuation of Germany by all occupation troops; the disarmament of Germany, either completely or to the point of a purely defensive force; the reconciliation of an international status with the sovereignty of the German state; the economic and commercial conditions relevant to a neutral state.

"Any solution of the German problem which spells peace for Germany must be bound up with the evacuation of the occupying forces. West and East Germany must alike be free, but if the withdrawal of the occupying forces is to have anything more than a military significance, then Germany must be free also from any subservience to foreign political and economic control.

"Neutrality is the policy which is strong in a new method of overcoming evil; in the power of a resistance which is non-violent.

CONFERENCE REJECTS BONN TREATIES

Here are the main points of the resolution which was adopted unanimously by the Conference with the exception of three abstentions:

"The Conference has brought together men and women from Italy, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Great Britain, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Austria, as well as from all parts and sectors of Germany and from Berlin, the German capital.

"The Conference has carefully considered the treaties of Bonn and Paris. As a result of its consideration the Conference concludes that these treaties mean the political and military integration of the German Federal Republic in the camp of the western powers.

"The partitioning of Germany has serious economic consequences both for Germany and for other countries, and increases the danger of war.

"The treaties will inevitably lead to a further strengthening of the arms race, to a deepening of the partitioning of Germany, and the resultant possibility of German civil war, and to an increase in international tension.

"We are therefore thoroughly convinced that the ratification of these treaties would make a peaceful solution of the German problem extremely difficult if not completely impossible.

"For this reason the treaties must not be allowed to be finally ratified, and where ratified they must be denounced.

"The four powers, meeting after the war in Potsdam, jointly took over the responsibility of ensuring the peaceful development of a democratic Germany. For this reason the efforts to obtain a Four Power Conference must be pursued with great earnestness, in order to achieve a Peace Treaty which will restore unity and sovereign independence to the German people, and which will simultaneously provide a guarantee of security for the neighbour states of Germany. The thus unified Germany can make an important contribution to general disarmament.

"It is our agreed opinion that the Four Powers must above all fulfil the urgent request of the German people and of the neighbouring nations that Germany should not again participate in coalitions and military alliances, and that after the conclusion of the peace treaty no foreign powers should maintain military bases on German territory. After the peace treaty comes into force all occupation forces must be withdrawn from Germany as quickly as possible.

"The German people have the right to take part in the negotiations on the peace treaty which is to be concluded with them. We welcome the fact that steps have already been taken to bring about negotiations between Germans, between the German Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic, to convert swiftly into reality this undoubted German right. It is urgently to be desired that the inner German negotiations should make such progress that an authorised mixed or all-German commission should take part in the preparation of a peace treaty.

"In addition it is necessary that the Four Powers and the Germans themselves should make the earliest possible preparations for general, free, secret elections in Germany with the aim of establishing an all-German government which would be empowered to conclude the peace treaty.

"The Conference has not reached full agreement and other questions remain open. It believes, however, that the realisation of the proposals made above would produce in a short time a sound and peaceful development of Germany and would guarantee the security of her neighbours."

"EUROPEAN ARMY IS FOREIGN LEGION"

Pastor Niemoeller

Pastor Martin Niemoeller, President of the Evangelical Church in the West German province of Hessen, and veteran anti-Hitler fighter told the Conference that he felt the fight against the Bonn Treaty was the most important immediate task.

"We must do everything to prevent the threatened ratification of these treaties" he said. "These treaties would not bring the arms race to an end, but would give it new impetus," he said.

"As a German I regard the problem not simply as one affecting us Germans, but as one affecting the entire situation of the nations and the people in the world of today.

"We must prevent the establishment of the European Army. As the well-known American journalist Dorothy Thompson said: 'What shall we do with an European Army as long as there is no European government?'

"As long as there is no European government then this European Army can only be a foreign legion commanded by someone from outside. It would only increase the tension which threatens us and the entire political structure of the world.

"The first thing that we must aim at is that the Great Powers reach agreement on the neutral position of a re-united German nation and German country. I myself am convinced that we should not burden this weak growth of a re-united Germany with any sort of army. For a considerable period of time we should be satisfied if we have sufficient police to maintain peace and order.

"After international agreement has been reached on setting up an all-German government, neutral in the sense which I have defined, there is the question of free election in both parts of Germany, and how the all-German government should be established and how it should work, and the withdrawal of the so-called occupation troops.

"The third step must be the peace treaty, which must ensure our German people the right of self-determination.

"I believe that this would be a contribution to a real Europe which would be capable of life even in the midst of the differences which exist between the East and the West of the world at this moment.

"IRON CURTAIN COVERS BONN REARMAMENT"

Mr William Pearson

An iron curtain has been dropped in Britain on the question of West German re-armament, Mr William Pearson, Secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, Scottish Area, told the Conference.

"Miners normally work underground, but in the fight for peace I propose to come to the surface" he said. "The Scottish miners are solid for peace, and completely opposed to the policy of the warmongers.

"A complete iron curtain has dropped on the question of West German re-armament, and very few British people understand the real situation. We must break through the barrier and tell the people of all lands the truth and the dangers of the present position.

We shall be misrepresented in the war press of the world. That should not worry anyone. Progressive policy has always been misrepresented. Despite this the progressive policy will always win provided that we rally the people to our cause of peace. The progressive development of the Soviet Union and China are proof of this.

"Britain is in a dangerous position, and the small strip of water will not save us from disaster if we allow ourselves to be used as the aircraft carrier of the United States. The feeling against German re-armament is rising in Britain, deep concern is being expressed in the trade union and Labour movement.

"Had it not been for prior important commitments we should have had six Members of Parliament present at this Conference."

Democratic
GERMAN REPORT

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FRENCH CATHOLIC WARNS OF WEHRMACHT

The Paris Treaty establishing the so-called "European Defence Community" would inevitably lead to the establishment of a national West German army with its own general staff commanded by fascist officers, French Delegate Jean-Marie Domenach, editor of the Catholic periodical "Esprit" told the Conference.

Monsieur Domenach showed, through an analysis of the text of the Paris Treaty, that German militarism would be given free rein, the arms race would be speeded up, and that the rejection of sovereignty implicit in the treaty was not in favour of a super-national authority but in favour of a foreign general staff.

Summing up he stated:

"Despite all promises, a German-armed force approximately 600,000 strong will be established, under the command of its own general staff, and with its own Ministry of War. Since no guarantees are laid down in the treaty these forces will of necessity be commanded by officers filled with militaristic and fascist spirit, officers who are aiming to launch a war against the East. The Germans will be robbed of any possibility of making a free decision on the peaceful re-unification of their country.

"The states participating in the treaty have abandoned control of their armed forces to an organism which is in fact controlled by SHAPE, the Supreme Allied Headquarters. This can only be described as an ugly caricature of a supernational authority. The European contingents are being raised to carry out a policy laid down by the United States.

"By abandoning control of their armed forces these states are abandoning a tool of their diplomacy which they could use when the day comes when they wish to loosen the bonds attaching them to the United States."

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11 Million West Germans Demand Peace Treaty

Nearly eleven Million West Germans have so far voted in the plebiscite calling for a peace treaty and opposing the Bonn Treaty, the Plebiscite Commitee in Duesseldorf reported.

Up to November 3rd 10,981,085 votes had been given, the Plebiscite Committee announced.

"LIQUIDATION INC." COMMISSION FOLDS

Murder Gang had International Links

The joint commission established by the West German authorities and the U. S. High Commission to investigate the activities of the "Liquidation Inc." murder group has broken up without reaching any conclusions.

The West German semi-official news agency DPA stated that the commission came to a dead end when the American represensatives refused to allow American witnesses to be examined by German members of the commission.

"Liquidation Inc." was a branch of the neo-fascist organisation "Federation of German Youth". Georg August Zinn, Social Democratic Prime Minister of Hessen Province, announced on October 8th that the U. S. authorities had armed and financed the gang, which was preparing to murder leading West German Social Democrats and trade unionists.

According to the Swiss newspaper "Vorwaerts" the terrorist gang received a subsidy of over seven million marks from Coca Cola Inc.

Murder gangs have been organised by the American military authorities in Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, France and Italy on the same lines as the gang known as "Liquidation Inc." in West Germany, the Dutch newspaper "De Waarheid" reported.

The West German murder gang was reported to be directly linked to the neo-fascist organisations in Holland. "De Waarheid" stated that one of the Dutch organisations, which was directly financed by the American Counter Intelligence Corps, was headed by former SS man Paul van Tienen.

(On October 15th GERMAN REPORT stated: "The lessons of 'Liquidation Inc.' are not confined to Germany. Are you sure that the American occupation authorities in your country have not established a similar organisation? Is your name on the liquidation list?")

NEW PARTY OPPOSES ADENAUER

Prominent members of middle-class West German parties have resigned and aim to found their own party at the end of November. They include Dr Heinemann, former Minister of the Interior in Adenauer's Government, and Hans Bodensteiner, Member of Parliament and a fellow-member of the Christian Democratic Union. They have been joined by Frau Helene Wessel, former chairman of the "Zentrum Party", who is also a Member of Parliament.

Announcing his resignation from the Christian Democratic Union Dr Heinemann, who is a prominent Protestant layman, declared: "As a result of Adenauer's pressure for ratification of the Bonn Treaty, the time has come for every man to take his own decision."

Hans Bodensteiner stated: "The Christian Democratic Union is led today by former nazi bankers like Pferdmenges, who have closer links with the American bankers than with the German workers and peasants."

ZEPPELIN PIONEER OPPOSES BONN TREATY

Dr. Hugo Eckener, pioneer in lighter-than-air flying craft, is one of the signatories to an appeal addressed to the West Parliament calling for a rejection of the Bonn Treaty.

The appeal was signed by 32 prominent West German personalities, including Professor Hans Iwand, Professor of Evangelical Theology in Bonn; Paul Schempp, Chairman of the Wuerttemberg Theological Society; Dr. Joseph Wirth prominent Catholic and former German Chancellor; Professor Klara-Maria Fassbinder, of the Bonn Pedagogic Academy; and Hans Hilpert, theatre director.

They called for members of parliament to refuse to ratify the Bonn Treaty, and to urge the western powers to confer with the Soviet Union on restoring German Unity.

Communists Only German Party in Saar Elections

The Communist Party will be the only German patriotic party putting up candidates in the elections to be held in the Saar Territory on November 30th, reports from Saarbruecken show.

The other parties taking part in the lection are puppet parties controlled by the French steel financial group "Comité des Forges."

The Social Democrats and Christian Democrats, who make a great show of defending the interests of the Saar population in the Bonn Parliament, have left the Saarlanders in the lurch and have urged them to boycott the elections, thus hoping to ensure that the French puppet regime, headed by Prime Minister Hoffmann, should be returned.

Soviet Machines Speed Up Mining

Soviet mining machinery delivered to East Germany in recent months has led to big increases in coal production.

In the Martin Hoop Pit at Zwickau a brigade using the "Donbass I" coal cutter combine has cut forward nearly 22 yards in a five hour shift, compared to an average of about ten yards.

U. S. Peace Campaign Against Bonn Treaty

The U. S. Committee against Militarisation, with headquarters in Chicago, has launched a mass campaign in the United States to defeat ratification of the Bonn Treaty which would establish a new West German Wehrmacht.

The committee has called upon all peace-workers to act now, before the Treaty is ratified by the West German and French Parliaments.

Copies of the plan, with an excellent summary of the implications of the Bonn Treaty, can be obtained from:

U. S. C. A. M.
6329 S. May St.
Chicago 21
Illinois USA

REFUGEES

(Who are the "refugees" who are always reported in the western press to be flooding into West Berlin? Here is part of the answer, in the form of a news item from the "Neue Zeitung", official organ of the American High Commission in Germany, dated November 7th.)

"Fraeulein Erika Schoental from Dresden, 19 years old, reported to the Refugee Centre in the Kuno Fischer Strasse a short while ago as a political refugee. She was sent to a refugee camp, and here she got to know another woman from her home town. They became friends, and one day Fraeulein Schoental whispered a secret: "In Dresden I was the member of a band of burglars. I was caught and shut up, but I managed to escape. Before I came to West Berlin I gave my father a dose of rat poison. I wanted him to die because I could not stand him."

Her friend was shocked and went to the police. Erika was arrested and made a confession. Then she said that she had wanted to poison her father, but he did not die. In addition she had taken part in robberies."

High-Ranking SS Men Freed

A Munich court has freed two former SS judges who were charged with passing death sentences on opponents of the nazi regime in the Flossenberg Concentration Camp.

The West German judge found that the two men, Huppenkothen and Thorbeck, had "acted legally under the laws valid at that time" in passing death sentences.

Even right-wing West Germans were shocked by the release of the SS men, since the man whom they had sentenced to death was Admiral Canaris, Hitler's spy chief, who was implicated in a right-wing anti-Hitler plot in 1944.

New Wehrmacht "As Big As Kaiser's Army"

The new West German Wehrmacht will be as big as Kaiser Wilhelm's Army before World War I, the West German newspaper "Nuernberger 8-Uhrblatt" reported on November 11th.

"The announcement made by Theodor Blank that 102.000 officers and non-commissioned officers will be needed means that the voluntary training staff alone will be larger than the entire 100 000 man army by the Reichswehr during the Weimar Republic," the paper stated.

"Military experts reckon that, on the basis of the training staff officially laid down, the planned West German Army should number 600,000 men. That means it would be of about the same size as the peace-time army of the Kaiser Wilhelm II before the First World war, at a time when Germany included Alsace and Lorraine and stretched from Metz to Koenigsberg, and had colonies which had to be protected in Africa, East Asia and the South Seas."

"Beer Evening" with the Wehrmacht

Officers of the former Wehrmacht and U.S. officers held a social "beer evening" in Kassel, American Zone, on November 2nd. At the social get-together, the first of its kind to be held since the war, Colonel Helm of the U.S. Army and the American "Cultural Officer" John D. Healy stressed the "brotherhood in arms" of all those assembled.

"About one hundred former German officers then discussed military and political questions with Colonel Helm the West German news agency reported. "One of the officers complained that in the second world war the front-line German soldiers had been 'stabbed in the back' by saboteurs."

The New York Times

"WE SHALL RETURN" FASCISTS TELL ELECTORATE

BY DREW MIDDLETON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

Bonn, Germany, Nov. 8 — The Nazi warning, "We shall return", overshadows tomorrow's communal elections for which almost half the electorate of Federal Germany is eligible.

A sinister shadow of German politics hangs over the elections. Leaflets issued by members of the fascist Socialist Reich party on the eve of the election, attacking Jews and Catholics and warning citizens not to vote, have been circulated throughout Lower Saxony and in many districts of North Rhine Westphalia.

"The Jew, as dictator of democracy, Bolshevism and the Vatican rule over all of you," one typical pamphlet reads. "Have you not realised that? Stand fast. Remain German. Be neutral. Do not vote, but wait. We shall return."

Fascist activity is greatest in the area inside the triangle bounded by Hanover, Hamburg and Bremen, but there are many Fascist eruptions outside that section.

EX STORM TROOP LEADER ELECTED

Bonn, Germany, Nov. 10 — Wilhelm Schepmann, the last leader of Hitler's brown-shirted Storm Troopers, became yesterday the first prominent ex-Nazi to win an elective office in Federal Germany.

The voters of Gifhorn, a district in Lower Saxony, assured Schepmann a seat on the district council for the Refugee Party.

Schepmann's victory was helped, according to Allied observers, by the publication in local papers this morning of a photograph of the former Nazi stalwart in full dress uniform — with medals — of a storm trooper.

The Refugee Party, headed in Lower Saxony by Waldemar Kraft, another prominent ex-Nazi, endorsed Schepmann and other former supporters of Hitler.

(From "Daily Worker", London

"They elect General Eisenhower, we shall elect General Ramcke. Heil!"

MANTEUFFEL CALLS FOR MORE DIVISIONS

Twelve divisions for the new German Wehrmacht are not enough, former Hitler General Hasso von Manteuffel stated in an interview with the "Salzburger Nachrichten".

"I cannot imagine the French really expect us to make do with a sort of home guard, with which, when it comes down to hard facts, we should have to protect France from the results of her own policy" the ex-General stated.

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

Western newspapers have been crowing recently about an alleged lack of food in East Germany, and have even been inventing ("sucking out of their fingers" is the delightful German phrase for this activity) stories about "food riots" in various parts of the country.

A typical report was that in the Swedish newspaper "Svenska Dagbladet" of November 1st, which stated:

"The great food shortage in East Germany will mean real hardship during the coming winter ... Production goals for October could not be met in the "Ost Iron Works" because of food shortages, the official newspaper "Neues Deutschland" admitted on Sunday. Butter, margarine and pork could not be purchased in the state-owned shops during the whole of October ..."

And so on. Now there are a whole lot of specific mis-statements in this article: the article from "Neues Deutschland" which is referred to did not make food shortages responsible for the production sag, for instance; and pork was available in the state-owned shops in great quantities (I personally sometimes long for a mutton chop, which is rare).

Some Shortcomings

There have been shortcomings in the food supplies available in the shops here recently. There has been no attempt to conceal them; the columns of the newspapers have been full of complaints about the difficulties, and when I visited the circus in East Berlin a few days ago I found the clowns cracking jokes about it.

But the point is that the difficulty has been almost entirely a distribution breakdown, and not a supply breakdown. There have been a few real shortages due to natural causes: onions are in very short supply owing to unfavourable weather, and various vegetables have been short for the same reason. But otherwise the supplies have been there.

The reasons for the distribution difficulties are manifold: just plain bureaucracy and inefficiency must take most of the blame, coupled with the steadily rising demand on the part of workers who are earning better than ever before. The part played by sabotage should not be overlooked either. In the case of East Berlin, in particular, shortages in various articles have been largely due to the fact that West Berliners take advantage of cheaper prices on this side of town and buy up huge quantities of various foodstuffs, thus causing temporary shortages. There is reason to believe that some of these "buying sprees" are in fact organised and financed by the West Berlin authorities, with American backing, for the specific purpose of embarrassing the East German Authorities.

Real Explanation

That seems to me the only explanation for the fact that sugar sales in East Berlin last month, for instance, were nine times as high as those in Leipzig, although East Berlin has less than twice Leipzig's population.

In the past few weeks the purchases of foodstuffs in East Berlin have shot up, and if you see a queue somewhere in a food shop the chances are that the majority of the queurs are West Berliners, intent on snapping up some food bargain.

The East Berlin authorities are reported to be considering ways and means of overcoming this very difficult problem On the one hand they wish to do nothing which would increase the split through the city, but on the other hand supplies have to be assured for the East Berliners who are working hard for Socalism, and who have not the time to spare standing in queues for their food.

But summing up, I must emphasise that there has been nothing which could remotely be described as a "food shortage" in any part of East Germany. Butter has run out for a day or two in one town, dried peas in another, and in one grotesque instance a district spent several days without salt, although tons were available. But there has always, and everywhere, been enough to eat, and in fact the average East German family is eating today far better than at any time since the end of the war, and in the majority of cases better than they ever have in their lives.

Censorship?

Some subscribers to GERMAN REPORT in the United States have complained recently that the paper arrives very irregularly, and that many numbers are missing.

An explanation was provided by the "New York Times" for November 12th, which stated:

"Inquiries showed yesterday that the Post Office Department has been allowing Soviet bloc periodicals to go through ... to some universities and some researchers, while destroying materials addressed to others without notice to the addresses. Enforcement has been stepped up since the summer of 1951.

"A letter, dated Oct. 31, came from Louis J. Doyle, acting solicitor (for the Post Office), who wrote that 'the Post Office Department does not, as you suggest, act as a censor', but rather it administers the laws affecting matter in the mails.

"Mr. Doyle noted that various postal statutes prohibited use of the mails for certain types of literature."

So if American readers do not get GERMAN REPORT, or other publications published "behind the iron curtain" they have the satisfaction of knowing that they are not subjected to censorship, but are simply experiencing the application of Section 1717 of Title 18, U. S. Code.

Human Rights

If I remember rightly, the United States Government was one of the states which subscribed to the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" which was proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10th, 1948. Article 19 of this declaration stated in part:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression: this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

But until that fine declaration is put into practice I would ask any U. S. subscribers who do not get their copies regularly to write and let me know. If they give me the dates of the missing issues we shall try to supply them with the numbers in question as long as our supplies hold out.

Mein Kampf

Hitler's "Mein Kampf" is the second most popular non-fiction book in the library at the U.S. Air Base at Wiesbaden, West Germany.

Most popular book is "U.S.A — Confidential", a sensational book on crime and graft throughout the United States.

Edited and published fortnightly by John Peet, Democratic German Report, Friedrichstrasse 167/III Berlin W 8, Telephone: 22 62 68. Printed in Germany by (36). Veröffentlicht unter der Lizenz-Nr. 752 des Amtes für Information der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik.